

Abstract of the Disclosure

A switching unit (101₁) receives video data (103) sent from a device (102), and sends an ATM cell synchronized with the clock to switching units (101₂ - 101₄) by a signal (including optical data) containing a
5 frequency component serving as a synchronous clock supply source. If a fault occurs midway along a line, the switching unit (101₂) which detects the fault sends an AIS cell to an OAM connection (109). The termination switching unit (101₄) switches a port f for receiving a
10 synchronous clock to a port g, and sends back an RDI cell. The switching units (101₃, 101₂) which have received the RDI cell switch the synchronous clock to ports e and c and receive it, thus obtaining an identical clock.